

WARREN
MAGAZINE

ALL ABOUT TIME AFTER TIME

PAGE 32



FAMOUS
MONSTERS
#159

FAMOUS

MONSTERS

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NOV 1979

MORE
ON THE
ALIEN MOVIE!
WHAT THE EXPERTS
ARE SAYING
ABOUT IT!



OIL'S WELL FOR C-3PO



See-Threepto was feeling cold & poorly, like his batteries were all run down and oil was low in his crank tank (that always makes him cranky) till young Skywalker came along and fixed his cams and now C-3PO is no longer chilly, Billy, he's feeling, er, at least Luke warm. You'll feel positively **HOT**--flushed with excitement--as you flip (out) thru this farout issue!

SPEAKING OF MONSTERS



WAX ENTHUSIASTIC!

WELCOME to the HOUSE OF WHACKS.

It made a hit with Vincent Price so you ought to find this issue a hot one too. We burned the candle at both ends (and the middle) to melt down any resistance you might have to buying this copy. Surely you can't resist the mad antics of the Maniacal Muppet Monsters. **TIME AFTER TIME** you'll return to **MOS EISLEY'S CANTINA** where you can drink a toast with Prince Sirki and meet the late David Fleischer after reading about his demise in our **Obit Dept.** On top of all this is a generous helping of fantastic news about the amazing **Imagi-movies** that are in the works. So get the wax out of your ears and hear us good as we repeat: **WELCOME** to our Burning Issue. It's as hot as **Fear-n'-Hate 451!**

*Forrest
Ackerman*

FAME MAIL



THIS ISSUE DEDICATED TO ROB RICHARDSON

When you find a lot more birthday dates of horror stars & supporting players published in future issues, you can be grateful (as FM is grateful) to ROB because he has done a fine job of supplying us with a quarter hundred. Happy Birthday to YOU, Rob, whenever it may be!

WANTED! More Readers Like



MATICEK GRABNAR
of Yugoslavia

HONOREE GOES WHINE!

While browsing thru the articles, I happened to look at the letters page. I almost died of shock when I saw who the issue was dedicated to. You have no idea how honored I was. I ran around the store where I worked, like a teenager (I'm 26), showing off my name in your magazine. Altho I recently accomplished my goal of getting a job as a chemist, this was the proudest moment of my life. Since I was small, I've been a fan of movies of terror and even a bigger fan of your magazine. Whatever people say about "horror" & "sci-fi" films, I believe that besides allowing people to escape from the drudgery of today, they allow people to dream of tomorrow instead of rambling on, let me say thank you for your honor and I hope that you are editor forever.

KEN BISHOP
Revere, Mass.

HELLO—IT'S HALLOWEEN

HALLOWEEN. I know there will be some people out there who will just shake their heads and say it was another "knife-wielding-maniac picture". It was. However, one thing I was impressed with was the tension & suspense the picture maintained, a very hard thing to do nowadays with people who have seen blood splashed every way but out of a screen. Which brings me to another point. I think that movies that hope to gain an aspect of terror in their films nowadays thru excessive blood-letting only add the ridiculous & laughable to their plots. The blood that flowed in **HALLOWEEN** gave the audience an excitement-filled shock of fear, not a bloodbath.

JIM LAMBERT
Urbana Ohio

STARCRASH A SMASH

I just saw Lynn Cozzi's SF film **STARCRASH** and I thought it was terrific. The special effects were superb. The laser beams, hyperspace, golems, Amazon statue, Akton's mental powers, to mention just a few, were great. The star crash was good but it was too similar to earlier explosions in the film. The scene where Stella Star was defeated by Akton after being frozen on a cold alien planet was my favorite scene. I thought Marjoe, Munro, Hasselhoff & Plummer were all excellent. Judd Hamilton played a much better robot than those of **STAR WARS** or **BUCK ROGERS** because of his physical abilities. The robots of **STAR WARS** & **BUCK ROGERS** were used for cuteness, nothing more.

As usual, Caroline Munro was the movie's best special effect. As the galaxy's best pilot, Ms. Munro was at her peak form. Ms. Munro should be a well-welcomed change to male SF fans due to her stunning attributes and also to female SF fans who are tired of the male character always being the person depended upon to save the universe.

JIM GILLES
F.E. Warren AFB, Wyo.

WANTED! More Readers Like



MINO "TENSHI" SHIBANO
of Japan

THE PRICE OF MONSTERDOM

Your article & fotos really space me out. Sometimes I just sit & glare at the cover for a few hours without turning a page. One of my favorite things are those little puns you stick under your fotos but then again I like humor about as much as I like monsters. I really don't think there could be another magazine that covers articles so interestingly & humorously as **FM**. Ever since I was a little tyke I've been fascinated by monsters. Then I began reading your magazine and I wish I could have something to do with monsters. Your magazine made that wish come true. I won 6th place in the great **STAR WARS** contest. I try to imagine how I felt seeing my face in the same magazine with **SUPERMAN** & **THE LORD OF THE RINGS**. After that I know I was made to have something to do with monsters. Thanks for making me feel that I am finally a Famous Monster.

JODY PRICE
Anderson, IN.

WANTED! More Readers Like



MARK FARRELL

NOORAY FOR RANDY & HAMMER

I would just like to thank Randy Palmer for the consistency of his great horror articles on Hammer Films. Thanks to Hammer Films I got started on the horror trend. **HORROR OF DRACULA** first introduced me to the "better" side of horror films and firmly & forever acclaimed Christopher Lee & Peter Cushing as my favorite actors. After I was dead set (person the pun) on being a horror addict I decided on reading **THE MONSTER MAGAZINE**, **FAMOUS MONSTERS**.

A salute should be given by Hammer devotees to Mr. Palmer for his upclose & very informative articles on every aspect of Hammer Films. From Chris Lee's **Dracula** & **Frankenstein** & others to Peter Cushing's **Van Helsing** & **Dr. Frankenstein**, Mr. Palmer makes us proud to be horror fans and even prouder to be Hammer fans. I will always look forward to Randy Palmer's articles & any articles in your magazine concerning Hammer Films. Thanks a lot for making me proud to be a horror fan and because of **FM** I always will be until my last day on this planet.

COLIN FARRELL
Medford, N.J.

IN SHORT

I thought your article on 60 years of horror, "The Horror Show", was terrific.—**DANIEL WALIMAA, Detroit**. Randy Palmer's article on **TASTE THE BLOOD OF DRACULA** was one of the most interesting ever to grace your pages.—**DAVID WALKER, Columbia, TN**. I'm 15 and think I'm old enough to see **DAWN OF THE DEAD**.—**RUSSELL BATES (address lacking)**. Without the editor's pun-crazy lyrics **FM** would be half as much fun.—**TED TAYLOR, S. AUSTRALIA**.

Your special magazine on **LORD OF THE RINGS** was well worth the price.—**LEN CARROLL (no address)**. When I have just watched a horror movie I read an **FM** and it makes me feel good.—**MIKE VERNO (no address)**. Some time ago I ordered 4 back **FM**s. In 2 weeks I got them 2 weeks! I expected them to be cheap reprints. They weren't—**RICKY CARTER, Columbia, MO**. Reading **FM** is like going thru a haunted house—with a guide.—**EDDIE LEACH, Milwaukee, DR**. I would like penpals from N.Y. I am a Ugandan boy 15.—**SAMUEL NABUSDBAW, c/o Miss Ross Kakyi, POB 408, Jinja, Uganda, S. AFRICA**.

OUR COVER:
A STUNT IN TERROR
A MOMENT OF HORROR
ACTING IN HER PRE-
PARATION FOR SPACE
FLIGHT HAS PREPARED
ASTRONAUT HERMICA
CARLWRIGHT FOR THE
SINGING-SIGHT
THAT CONFRONTS HER
SENSES AS SHE GAZES
IN DISBELIEF AT THE
IMPOSSIBILITY THAT IS
...THE "ALIEN".



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FAMOUS Monsters

Incorporating **MONSTER WORLD** ®

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32 TIME In 1979, Jack the Ripper fell from time, and H.G. Wells, down timeless dolls, chased Jack through modern police lines! Robert Bloch's latest movie is sure to be a thriller!

38 MOS EISLEY BEM Bar! Where else but at Mos Eisley, the Dodge City of the spaceways! Those Bug Eyed Monsters are everywhere and the Empire is having a hard time policing them!

45 DAVE FLEISCHER DIES Perhaps the last and greatest of the cartoon animators who created Betty Boop, Popeye, as Sinbad and more is honored and remembered here!

46 YOU AXED FOR IT A few photo fillips to satisfy your appetite for your favorite film photos including Love At First Bite, Superman and the ever incredible film: Star Wars!

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the dam has burst FANTASY FILM FLOOD

DELUGE! In 1933 it was a sci-filmm Disaster Movie about the End of the World by earthquake & flood.

Today it's the prospect for the near future in fantastic filmdom!

The new wave 'round the world is a tidal wave of imagi-movies, from cine-supernatural to sci-fi extravaganzas!

Alien Force will be a 2-hour pilot from Quinn-Martin Productions (*The Invaders*) for ABC-TV, with 5 more episodes slated for production.

SATELLITE 3 pairs Kirk (**THE FURY**) Douglas & Farrah (**The Smile**) Fawcett-Majors (seen in **LOGAN'S RUN**) as co-scientists in a satellite orbiting the great ringed world. Aboard their artificial worldlet comes Capt. James (Harvey Keitel), a mysterious imposter whose mental stability is suspect. With the curious captain comes a robot which wreaks havoc in the space station.

MAD MAX is a futuristic adventure drama on its way up to us from Australia.

Robert Bloch's hit of yesteryear (correction: yester fear) **ASYLUM** will be driving audiences into a frenzy once again when re-released under the new title of **THE HOUSE OF CRAZIES**.

(This kind of thing has been done in the past, i.e., **THE BLACK SLEEP** became **DR. CADMON'S SECRET**, Claude Rains & Fay Wray in **THE CLAIRVOYANT** became **THE EVIL MIND**, etc.)

drac is back

Not that he's ever been far from the screen since Bela Lugosi's portrayal of him in 1931 but **THE 7 BROTHERS MEET DRACULA** in a new vampiric adventure. Vampirewise, watch out also for **THE SPACE VAMPIRES**, **DIVORCE VAMPIRE STYLE** (sequel to **LOVE AT FIRST BITE**), **DRACULA FEVER** & **DRACULA'S LAND**.

From Singapore, **DYNAMITE JOHNSON**: "Mightier & stranger than King Kong, Faster than the \$6 Million Man, Deadlier than the Bionic Woman, More Powerful than a Super-Sonic jet fighter & Atomic Battleship combined!" (And that's only in the trailer.)

Alien Invaders assume the shape of humans (it seems to we we've heard that song before: **IT CAME FROM OUTER SPACE**, **INVASION OF THE BODY SNATCHERS**, **VILLAGE OF THE DAMNED**) and attempt to take over the Earth

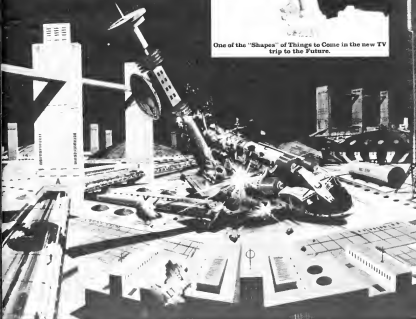
in **THE HUMANOID**, starring Richard "Jaws" Kiel.

Battlestar Galactica will be back in a series of 2-hour specials.

"The Continuous Katherine Mortenhoe", British novel, will have its title radically shortened when it reaches the screen. This filmed-in-Glasgow futuristic movie will be known as **DEATHWATCH**. If you can't wait for the motion picture but want to read the story now, try getting ahold of a copy of the DAW pocketbook of 1974, "The Unsleeping Eye" by DGCompton. Quoting from Donald Wollheim's back cover blurb: *Katherine Mortenhoe was going to die. She was going to do it slowly, painfully and before the eyes of millions. It was to be on a television program of the highest rating. The crisis & problems of the closing years of the 20th Century had forced the entertainment industry to ever-escalating needs to hold its audiences. And*



One of the "Shapes" of Things to Come in the new TV trip to the Future.



Action explodes in the Wellesian World of The Shape of Things to Come.



The hate do their thing in . . . NIGHTWING.



What happened when Flash Gordon retired? He became the Sheriff (Buster Crabbe) in IT FELL FROM THE SKY. Here he fights an undead mutant.



Talia Shire & Robert Foxworth fight for all they're worth to stay afloat in PROPHECY, the tale of the grisly mutant giant bear.

fatal illness — once so common — had become such a rarity that Katherine's doom was a magnet for all eyes. Katherine thought she had evaded the television ghoulies. She has been helped to do so by her newfound friend Roddie. He was sensitive, he was understanding, he helped her flee the morbid metropolis. But Roddie was *The Unseeing Eye*. And what Roddie saw & heard, the whole world saw & heard. But what Roddie thought & sought, only Katherine was to learn. And you!

shining stars

A \$12 million sf epic with 17 weeks of principal photography & 20 weeks of special fx is in progress in England, a kind of WHERE EAGLES DARE set in space. 5 unique characters are to be portrayed by international stars. Called FIVE STAR FIVE, it's scheduled for release Xmas 1980.

Xmas 1979 (Dec. 7, to be exact) is the release date of STAR TREK: THE MOTION PICTURE.

THE SHINING (Kubrick/King) is due to be "shone" your way 'ere long.

Another \$12 million space epic, with A. E. van Vogt coscripting, is being contemplated by Golan-Globus.

FLASH GORDON is due from Dino 15 Dec. 1980.

A couple of Earthlings (one of whom is John Forsythe) are recruited for a trip into space in a TV show to be called *The Mysterious Two* or *The Mysterious Pair* or *The Mysterious Duo*.

A group of French pendarmes has a close encounter of the third kind in THE COPS & THE EXTRA-TERRESTRIALS.

THE LATHE OF HEAVEN is Ursula K. Le Guin's entry in the Alien Chronicles race.

how we dune?

We're doin' great, DUNE-wise, with author Frank Herbert being paid \$1 million for the film rights to his classic—and doing the screen adaptation himself, hurrah! Arrakis, the desert planet called *Dune*, is ruled by the *Fremen*, the long-lived warriors with eyes of total blue, who ride giant sandworms and mine the wastelands for their addictive spice. These are the fierce warriors that Paul Atreides must conquer and then rule in order to overcome the superior forces arrayed against them.

India's first multistar horror film is JAANI DUSHMAN.

TEENAGE MONSTER RUMBLE has been scripted by Don Glut.

Miss Universe 3000 is the brainchild of Jim Wynorski & Mark (EQUINOX) McGee.

BEAUTIFUL is the story of a woman whose goal is eternal youth — so she sells her soul.

Few things are worse than the curse of . . . THIRST. THIRST can be an INFERNO that can make you long to meet the ICEMAN . . .



Don't fret, Battlestar Galactica fans, it's not thru yet. There'll be further adventures of the ragtag space fleet off & on in 2 hour episodes.



Inventor puts finishing touches to world's first computerized watchdog in C.H.O.M.P.S. (Canine Home Protection System).



IT FELL FROM THE SKY . . . and turned a nice guy into this yeechy zombie.

"1941" was never like this! Steve Spielberg turns back the clock to a cockeyed look at a fantastic 4-ring circus of incredible action, a 5-alarm version of weird happenings during World War 2.







Vermilion victim of vampire cultists in *THIRST*, Australian horror film.

even if he turns out to be a SPACE TRAMP!

THE DAY OF DAYS will be when LILITH & THE ALCHEMIST meet THE SHERIFF & THE SATELLITE KID (Cary "CESK" Guffey). Or perhaps when DR. JEKYLL JR. meets THE FISH MEN on THE ISLAND OF THE LIVING DEAD. What will happen when THE PUMAMAN meets THE BEAST & THE VIXEN? (The latter R-rated.)

"Galaxy One", a pay-cable TV package, will feature EYES BEYOND THE STARS with Martin Balsam, the college crowd's cult film DARK STAR and THE LUCIFER COMPLEX with Robert Vaughn & Keenan Wynn.

Film Magicke Inc. has optioned "The Sword of Shannara" by Terry Brooks. Long ago the wars of ancient Evil had ruined the world and forced mankind to compete with many other races — gnomes, trolls, dwarfs & elves. The giant forbidding Allanon, possessed of strange Druidic powers, revealed that the supposedly dead Warlock Lord was plotting to destroy the world. The sole weapon against this Power of Darkness was the Sword of Shannara, which could only be used by a true heir of Shannara. On halfelfin Shea Ohmsford, last of the bloodline, rests the hope of all races. Soon a Skull Bearer, dread minion of Evil, flies into Shady Vale, Shea flees, drawing the Skull Bearer after him. And this is

but the beginning of the saga of the seemingly hopeless quest of a simple man against the greatest power of evil the world has ever known.

BID TIME RETURN by Richard (Poe Master) Matheson has been optioned for filming. Called "a haunting blend of great romance & mesmerizing mystery ... intriguing ... tantalizing ... marvelous ... captivatingly weird ... unique & exciting", it poses the question: If past & present can co-exist, might it not be possible to jump back into time?

George Pal, in collaboration with Joe Marheim, has completed the novelization of a sequel to "The Time Machine", a thrilling tale of the world in terror of giant insects when time is running out for Terra. High hopes are held for filming the book.

coming attractions

THE AFTERMATH has been completed. Forrest J. Ackerman has a cameo role of Prof. Clark, curator of the last museum on Earth after the worldwide destruction that has left the remnants of humanity beset by hideous mutations.

Herb Jeffries, the famous black singer, will essay the role of the kindly alien in CHILD FROM THE STARS. Lew Ayres (DONOVAN'S BRAIN, *Galactica*) has accepted a role in the picture and FM's Editor will appear as himself. "Mr. Science Fiction", being interviewed on television concerning the incredible kidnappings and the strange events taking place on the dark side of the Moon. FJA recently finished a part as a TV newscaster in the semipro production of THE HORROR MOVIE and is scheduled to appear with Kirk Alyn, ex author David Gerrold, Bjo Trimble & others in the profan (not to be confused with profane) production SUPERBMAN.

Buster Crabbe stars in his first science fiction film in many many years: IT FELL FROM THE SKY, a meteor-oriented melodrama about a small town Sheriff (Buster) with a monster problem on his hands when a meteor falls on a boatload of people and, from what we can make out, turns them into sort of mutated zombies. Sounds like a kind of NIGHT OF THE LIVING DEAD plot. The cast includes Mike Bonavia from TV's *Stowaway to the Moon* and Norman Riggins of *Dark Shadows*. If his ailing health permits, Kirby Grant will appear as Doc Elberbe; he will be remembered as TV's *Sky King* and the hero of THE SPIDER WOMAN STRIKES BACK.

Further fantafilms forecast include:
PARADISE LOST ... SCALPEL ...
TANYA'S ISLAND (makeup by Rick Baker).
THE PROMETHEUS CRISIS ... THE
ALPHA INCIDENT ... Bionic Man Lee
Majors in "SHARKS" ... OLE DOC
METHUSELAH (L. Ron Hubbard) ... MONU-
MENT (Lloyd Biggle Jr.) ... THE GREAT
JUDGE (A.E. van Vogt) ... SOMETHING
WEIRD ... SOMETHING WICKED THIS
WAY COMES (Ray Bradbury) ... THE



Is it a product of the Bearman Studios? No, the Berman Studios. The Unbearable Mutation is the Big Bad Bear from PROPHECY.

CLONES "1941" (Steven Spielberg)
 THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK (Leigh Brackett's sequel to STAR WARS; a fan of & contributor to FM has, in collaboration with Lucas, written the novel; we'll proudly reveal his/her name as soon as official authorization is given to do so) the re-release of CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF THE THIRD KIND with additional footage the re-release of ALIEN with stronger horror sequences METEOR
 VORTEX CONAN Asimov's I ROBOT
 THE HOUSE THAT STOOD STILL by A.E. van Vogt IN THE DAYS OF THE COMET (Wells/Bloch/Pal) CALLAHAN'S CROSSTIME SALOON by Spider Robinson
 DARKER THAN YOU THINK by Jack Williamson MARK OF THE BEAST a sequel to STARCRASH and remakes of:
 VILLAGE OF THE DAMNED
 ATTACK OF THE 50-FOOT WOMAN
 IT! - THE TERROR FROM BEYOND SPACE
 THE CREATURE
 FROM THE BLACK LAGOON
 and
 THE INCREDIBLE
 SHRINKING MAN (WOMAN)
 And - FINAL COUNTDOWN!



"Dig you later, alligator." "After awhile, nagattile!" responds FM fun turned actor, George Stover, in THE ALIEN FACTOR.

END



ZOOT!
Rowlf!
Dr. Teeth!

Sam the Eagle... Robin the Frog... The Great Gonzo...
all of them & many more together in one howlacious film.
Plus!

Guest Appearances by:

MEL (YOUNG FRANKENSTEIN) BROOKS

BOB (CAT & CANARY) HOPE

CLORIS (YOUNG FRANK) LEACHMAN

TELLY (HORROR EXPRESS) SAVALAS

ORSON (WAR OF WORLDS) WELLES

PAUL (PHANTOM PARADISE) WILLIAMS

CHARLES (THE FURY: EVIL DOCTOR) DURNING

ELLIOTT (CAPRICORN ONE) GOULD

the divine swine

Featured, of course, is that Love Goddess of the Pork Set,
that Heavenly Ham, that Beauty who brought home the
Bacon in such unforgettable hits as *THE PIG PARADE*,
THE PIG SLEEP, *PIG FOOT*, *THE HAMS OF ORLAC*,
BACONELLA, *SWINEY TODD* (THE DEMON BARBER)
and the hampire classic by Ham Stoker—*PORKULA!*:
Miss Piggy.

the frog joins the hog

Miss Piggy & Kermit the Frog, the green & lovable Master
of Ceremonies from TV's *Muppet Show*, lead the rest of the
gang on a cross-country escapade filled with adventure & fun.

Kermit's beginnings sprouted from guest appearances on
the educational TV children's show *Sesame Street* where
he along with the other odd denizens presented a way

THE MANIACAL MUPPET MONSTERS



See what "Sesame" sees the Big Bird of Sesame Street, who plays a cameo role in THE MUPPET MOVIE.



Legal Eagle Sam, self-apollinated Super Censor. He'd cut a naked light bulb out of a Gilded Disney cartoon!



Mr. Nuth, Mr. Nuth is "Tooth or Consequence". Only his doesn't have a too at pull with him.



Hopkins Hump meet the Frog Monster. (Shortly after this picture was taken he croaked.)



Is It Long Chainey? No, it's "Animal", the Mad Drummer of The Kloc-tre Meyham. His performances are said to be sparkplacier.

to make learning fun for young & old alike.

From there the odd crew graduated to their own show, *The Muppet Show*, where the character studies were expanded and top name entertainers signed on. It's since become a very successful program, reminiscent of the old *Laugh-In* show. It's filled with one-liners & corny jokes which the Muppet characters bring off well.

Last winter several of the technicians who work the Muppet characters visited the editor's home along with John (ANIMAL HOUSE) Landis. Among them were Richard Hunt (who works Scooter, Janice and Sweetums). At the time they were discussing the upcoming movie and explained that Muppet King (& creator) Jim Henson couldn't be there because he was out buying new clothes for Miss Piggy!

So! The secret's out! Miss Piggy does not travel the streets of New York or Los Angeles, haunting the exclusive shops all by herself!

True to her Piggy form she passes the task on to someone else.

raising a fuzz

Now comes the Big Event.

A new day in Muppetdom.

The zany cast has assembled for a colorful musical production which is utterly unique & original & just plain fun. Even tho we *know* the characters are nothing but fuzzy pieces of material operated by human hands, somehow they seem *real*. They appear to have emotions, quirks, abilities & life all their own.

And this is due to the genius of Jim Henson & the other talented individuals who contribute to the success of Henson's creations.

The MUPPET MOVIE takes us to a realm of cartoon-like innocence where real people mix with unreal personalities. Not quite Disney, with live action & animation, but something more varied & believable.

The situation begins with Kermit the Frog, the ever-popular amphibian who rarely goes near water. Once upon a time he sat alone on one of the shows and sang the song, "It's Not Easy Being Green." Yet for him it seems to come naturally.

Comedian Dom DeLuise is a Hollywood agent traveling the backroads of the deep south. He is hopelessly lost in the swamp, trying to find his way out, when he sees an incredible sight:

There, sitting quietly in the swamp, is a frog. Nothing strange about that except that *this* frog is strumming a banjo and singing a song!

swamped with offers

DeLuise stops the car and tells Kermit that there's a demand for talented frogs such as himself and Kermit begins to see stars in his eyes.

Before long he's on his way to Hollywood and hopefully fame, fortune & a write-up in FM.

Kermit is good company for DeLuise as they

drive west to Celluloid City but there's something the frog sees that sends chills up & down his spindly legs, and with good reason.

Doc Hopper's Restaurant!

Home of the world-famous *Fried Frogs' Legs*!

And there's a chain of them across the country!

hopping mad

There's a villain in this, of course, aside from Doc himself.

Max! What a Hollywood agent is to an actor, Max is to Doc Hopper. He scouts for the best frogs' legs money can buy! And he's got his eye on Kermit.

Max & Doc follow Kermit & the gang across the country as the suspense builds. Doc is determined to obtain the most delectable frogs' legs he's ever seen!

Stopping at the El Sleezo Cafe, run by tough-guy James Coburn, Kermit meets a couple of ladies played by Madeline Kahn & Carol Kane, and an even tougher guy, Telly Savalas. We remember him from HORROR EXPRESS (with Peter Cushing & Christopher Lee) as the brutal Russian policeman, and equally hard as TV's rough-n'-ready Kojak.

DeLuise & Kermit relax in the cafe while the piano player, portrayed by the PHANTOM OF THE PARADISE himself, Paul Williams, introduces a new act:

Fozzie Bear & his Comedy Routine!

unbearable

The act is less than successful and Kermit, feeling sorry for the rejected bear, joins in the act in a song & dance bit.

That's an even bigger flop!

The crowd hisses & boos and attacks the unlikely duo.

All the while, Max & Doc watch the goings-on from behind a window.

Kermit tells the saddened Fozzie that he's heading for Hollywood to become a great actor and asks the bear to go along.

It's like WIZARD OF OZ all over again. But there is no Oz and the Emerald City is Hollywood, USA.

Driving in a 1961 Studebaker, Fozzie & Kermit sing songs and chat to pass the time as they head west.

"frog get it!"

Doc Hopper catches up to them and invited Kermit to star in a TV commercial for his fast-food chain but the frog declines the offer. He doesn't feel that he's suited to commercials about frog legs!

But Doc does not give up easily. If the frog won't do the commercial he will at least become the main course!

Fozzie's Studebaker moves along with danger at every curve. But the starstruck duo doesn't



That's Fozzie Bear in his great moment called "Laff, Cune, Laff."

seem to care, and press ever onward.

Out in the country, off the beaten path, Kermit & Fozzie discover an abandoned church where loud music is pouring out. Stopping to investigate they find—

doc rock

Dr. Teeth & the Electric Mayhem!

The wildest rock band on Earth!

Dr. Teeth is playing the pipe organ with Floyd Pepper on electric bass, backed up by Zoot on the sax, Janice on guitar and the menacing Animal on drums.

Kermit tells them that they're heading for stardom and the band protects the frog from the ever-present Doc Hopper & Max. To throw the persistent frog-hunter off the track the rock group paints Fozzie's car in brilliantly odd colors.

As any great chase-film fan will tell you, the greatest chases on film have to do with cars. And when you have cars chasing each other there's bound to be a series of events that are absolutely beyond belief.

funcakes

Doc Hopper, sitting in the back seat of his limo and eating a stack of pancakes, shooting orders



Crazy Harry, the Mad Bomber. We're still trying to find out what made him angry and why he has such a short fuse.



Gonzo the Great (son of Garbanso the Ingrate). He asked Camilla to be his chick . . . but she's chicken.

Miss Piggy of course doesn't ask to go. In her own determined way she more or less insists!

Another series of events takes place which begins with ice cream.

ice scream

Gonzo buys a bunch of balloons from a super salesman and they lift him away. As he travels into the air, Kermit & the others leave their ice cream vendor (played by Bob Hope) and chase Gonzo in their car.

In the meantime, Doc is still chasing them in the limo when the Muppets' car smashes into a giant hillbilly advertising pastries & pies. A large chunk of pie flies into Doc's car. Doc's shotgun goes off and shoots down Gonzo's balloons, along with Gonzo! He falls safely onto the station wagon and they continue on their way.

Later, during dinner, Miss Piggy is called away for a phone call but never returns!

Kermit feels that he's been dumped and is sad & sorry. Rowlf the Dog tries to console him with a song on the piano.

come acropper by doc hopper!

But there's villiany afoot!

Miss Piggy has been kidnapped by Doc Hopper!

Kermit is called with instructions on what to do if he wants to see Miss Piggy free again. He goes to the secret hideout where his piggy is tied up. There, the diabolical Prof. Krassman (Mel Brooks) is preparing to operate on Kermit. His specialty is frog brain surgery!

This is just too much for Miss Piggy to hear. She breaks free from her bonds and attacks with all the fury of a porkchop scorned! Using her famous Karate chops she downs every tough guy in the place and frees poor Kermit.

Heading for the audition in Hollywood, the car breaks down in the desert. All looks hopeless. If they don't make the deadline on time the trip will be for naught!

Then, a cloud of dust is seen moving in from the east.

yes, mayhem!

It's Dr. Teeth! The Muppets are saved!

Early the next morning the entire gang is packed into the Electric Mayhem bus and they're on their way.

But the repugnant Doc Hopper is close behind. Max is disguised as a highway patrolman and warns Kermit that the Doc has hired a professional frog killer!

Kermit is tired of the game and decides to have a showdown with the Doc once & for all. The gang reaches a ghost town in the far west and stops for a rest. But there's something strange going on.

A couple of inventors have come up with a growth pill that Animal seems very interested in.

at Max driving, is in trouble with the syrup. It keeps spilling all over him. Angered, he hits Max with a pillow, which burst and covers him with feathers.

Watching all this is the Great Gonzo, the plumber, driving his truck with the lovely Camilla the Chicken nestling at his side.

First the brightly-colored Studebaker streaks by, followed by the zig-zagging limo with an outraged Doc in the back seat covered with feathers. Gonzo is so intrigued by the sight that he crashes right into Fozzie's car!

car trek

The trek West is now picking up new people along the way. What started with Kermit taking a tip from a Hollywood agent has turned into a parade of characters heading for a single destination.

At a used car lot, Mad Man Mooney (played by Mr. Television himself, Milton Berle) sells the Muppets a new car: a 1947 Ford station wagon.

Mooney's assistant, Sweetums, wants to go along as well and runs after the crew on foot.

Finally, in the midwest, everybody's favorite lady appears:

porkly person

It's MISS PIGGY!

And she's just won the beauty contest!

Miss Piggy is lovestruck when she lays eyes on Kermit. The flip frog is less than enthused but agrees to take the pushy pig along to their destination.



Left to right: Gonzo the Great, Floyd Pepper, Animal, Fozzie Bear, Miss Piggy & Kermit the Frog. Did you ever see such a cast of--characters?

aw, shoot!

But the time has come for the big shootout. Kermit must face Doc on the streets of the town. Kermit's friends surround him and won't let him face the danger alone, while on the other side Doc & his gang confront the Muppets.

The frog killer is leading them and he's ready for the kill! Just as all seems about to break into pandemonium, suddenly the top of one of the buildings bursts apart.

It's Animal! He's grown to monstrous proportions!

The killers run off half-scared out of their wits and Max & Doc decide to reform and go into a different business.

Finally the Muppets reach Hollywood and make their way into show business. The movie is all about their trials & tribulations along the way and there are lots of songs & fun.

The movie is ready and the gang gathers in the projection room to see the first screening. Just as the ending titles appear on the screen the picture is torn asunder by Sweetums, who has burst thru the silver screen. He's finally made it! At long last he's caught up with his friends.

The movie ends on a happy note. Cameo appearances by some of the biggest stars in filmdom help to make this a wonderful experience.

Can they ever return to the tranquility & security of their TV show? But with Muppet ingenuity and the help of Miss Piggy we're sure it will all pork out.



The Hideous Deglicbenst. He usually devours FAMOUS MONSTERS but here he's putting a little Variety in his reading matter.

HAPPY BIRTHDAYS

18 candles



JULIA ADAMS
Oct. 17
BLACK LAGOON



JOSEPHINE HUTCHINSON
Oct. 9
Wife of SON OF FRANKENSTEIN

DRACULA, Luke Skywalker, Dracula's Daughter, Princess Leia, the Werewolf of London, the Bride of Frankenstein & a Dozen Others—in September and October we celebrate the Birthdays of these celebrities.

Of course Bela, Hull & Boles have gone to the Beyond but we can forward Birthday Wishes for you to Elsa Lanchester, Mark Hamill & Carrie Fisher. Just address them to the person's name c/o Nate L. Doya, 2499 Glandower Ave., Hollywood, CA 90027 and we'll do the rest—Free of Charge as an Exclusive Courtesy of FAMOUS MONSTERS. We wish we could forward cards to ALL the Birthday Folk but, alas & alack, we lack most of their addresses. If Gloria Holden or Yvonne De Carlo or Julia Adams or Charlton Heston or any of the Others would like us to re-mail Birthday Greetings to them next time, they have only to let us know their whereabouts.



COLEEN GRAY
Oct. 23
THE LEECH WOMAN



BEVERLY GARLAND
Oct. 17
IT CONQUERED THE WORLD



CHARLTON HESTON
Oct. 4
THE OMEGA MAN



JOHN BOLES
Oct. 28
FRANKENSTEIN



YVONNE DE CARLO
Sept. 7
THE MUNSTERS



HENRY HULL
Oct. 3
WEREWOLF OF LONDON



HEATHER SEARS
Sept. 28
PHANTOM OF THE OPERA (Lam)



GLYNIS JOHNS
Oct. 7
THE CABINET OF CALIGARI



BELA LUGOSI
Oct. 30
DRACULA



ELSA LANCHESTER
Oct. 28
THE BRIDE OF FRANKENSTEIN



ANNE FRANCIS
Sept. 16
FORBIDDEN PLANET



GLORIA HOLDEN
Sept. 3
DRACULA'S DAUGHTER



CARRIE NALL & MARK HAMILL
(Just wanted to be sure you're awake and paying attention)
Carrie Nall: Oct. 21 Mark Hamill: Sept. 25
STAR WARS & THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK



WALTER PIDGEON
Sept. 23
FORBIDDEN PLANET



EUSE NOLLMAN
Sept. 11
FORBIDDEN PLANET

ALIEN VIE



VIEWPOINTS

*the experts
speak
their minds*



A Close Encounter of the Worst Kind! can a gun-toting Ripley out-manuever the Alien in the film's final confrontation?

WHEN "STAR WARS" streaked across the screen you applauded when we brought you the opinions of some of the Buggies in the fanzfield. Some of their viewpoints you violently disagreed with, others you saw eye-to-eye. But however you felt about STAR WARS (and, later, CELESTINE) and whatever you made of the opinions of the Opinion Makers, you were anxious to read their thoughts.

So once again we have assembled for you a group of reactions to the Movie of the Moment: ALIEN.

Leading off, we hear from—

ERIK VON BUELOW

—whose models & monsters you've appreciated in *Trilogy of Terror*, *FOOD OF THE GODS*, and are looking forward to in Steven Spielberg's "1941".

It seems that these days many of the new sci-fi films give priority to special effect and not to the story. With ALIEN the technical superiority of the script, directing & acting was evident. However, the screenplay is sadly lacking in credibility.

For instance, the situations of the 7 persons involved are just too unreal. The characters come off as being just plain vulgar.

The impact of the shocking surprises is not carried out to the fullest. The development of the Alien, for example, is in stages and not too much is said about it or shown on screen.

Before my becoming a naturalized citizen of the US, I carried the standard Green Card ID. Immediately after the screening I looked up the word alien in the encyclopedia. I was deeply shocked! The meaning of the word "alien", to me, meant faithful friend, follower, an ally. This was totally different from the actual meaning I found: "Unsympathetic, strange, of another race; different, hostile, remote, conflicting." I thought it derived from the latin, as in Alliance. I think I should write to the Naturalization Service people to change this word which characterizes hopeful citizens of the USA!

As to the spaceship itself, I feel that the old sci-fi movies of the 30s, with the aerodynamic smooth lines, were much more logical than the complicated surfaces of today's space vehicles. Consider the tubing, antennae, boxes, hatches, plates, etc. The first meteoroid storm would probably shave off the trimmings and jam up communications or engines. Perhaps it would not be able to glide over the surface and might crashland.

The concept of large windows is also illogical. Scientifically, TV monitors would be used. Large windows look nice

film but in actual use would be impractical.

All in all, the effect were very good with few exceptions. To the trained eye one could catch a squirt of blood going on the shirt of Kane, who is giving "birth" to the alien. The blood should have been coming from the body, not on it. Simple reverse photography would have done the trick.

Canton angles were very good. The subdued lighting was a good trick, adding to the mood of mystery & despair. The banging chains were a good touch as well.

There were plenty of things I liked very much. Blending the music with the sound effect was a good idea. And I have a deep respect for the effort that went into the making of this film. The music in some places was excellent!

STAR WARS & CLOSE ENCOUNTERS will still be ruling the field as other films attempt to copy & exploit them, giving way to tanks & ships & various model kits being turned into "alien" spacecraft. Even the wreck on the surface was a combination of organic & mechanic substance which reminded me of a rebuilding of the STAR TREK ship.

Final comment: It was definitely good to see this movie!

RON WAITE

—a 21-year veteran of FM and now our Assistant Editor has plenty to say about ALIEN.

Ever since I saw the movie I've been racking my brain trying to figure out if I liked it or hated it!

In all the years I've been seeing such films I have never been so involved, so mentally drained & upset. The tension never stops and for 2 hours you are on the edge of your seat living a nightmare!

ALIEN in my mind stands for 5 things—and "things" is an appropriate word here!

ANDROMEDA STRAIN
LOVECRAFT

IT!—THE TERROR FROM BEYOND SPACE.
EXORCIST.

NIGHT OF THE LIVING DEAD.

Put them all together and you spell ALIEN.

When horror writer HP Lovecraft wrote his tales of terror he never elaborated on the description of his demons. He left it to the imagination of the reader, who could conjure up in their own mind nightmarish images which Lovecraft could never describe.

So it is with ALIEN.

ANDROMEDA STRAIN brought us a deadly virus that killed instantly. A group of scientists were hard pressed to come up with a solution to the menace.

IT!—THE TERROR FROM BEYOND SPACE, a film very similar to ALIEN, was a monster from Mars who took refuge in the air vents of the giant spaceship. One by one the crew was being killed off and you never knew where the creature would strike next. Also the case with the ALIEN II, too, hid in the maze of tunnels in the Nostromo, striking at will.

THE EXORCIST, of course, was the demonic possession of an innocent girl and the resulting murder & mayhem which followed. Gruesome & graphically brought to the screen, we saw shades of EXORCIST in ALIEN when Ash explodes and falls to pieces. He spouts a yellowish fluid and later a white, milky substance oozes from his mouth.

And George Romero's NIGHT OF THE LIVING DEAD presented zombies who feasted on the bodies of the living. Only difference here was the ALIEN was alive.

I could also say that ALIEN is

ALARMING!
LEGENDARY!
INEVITABLE!
EXCITING!
NIGHTMARISH!
And it's all true.

When the 7 weary space travelers awake to find that they are still 10 months from Earth and on their way to an alien planet in answer to a distress call, they are less than pleased.

The huge planet, Saturn-like in its appearance, is surrounded by a number of moons, one of which the shuttle lands on.



The gadget-laden bridge of the commercial starship Nostromo, whose computer knows the dread secret of the Alien.



Responding to a mysterious transmission, the crew of the *Nostromo* lands on the stormy surface of a strange planetoid.

There they find the remains of a gargantuan alien seated behind a huge gun. Its body is fossilized, its chest ripped open from within!

The ancient spacecraft is massive. The entire sight is something to see! Nothing like it has ever been seen by anyone on this planet.

One of the astronauts discovers a cavern full of otherworldly eggs and moves in for a closer look.

This is his fatal mistake!

The shell cracks open and a tannish, pulsating mass slashes thru the putrid air and attaches itself to his helmet!

Back aboard the shuttle, Ash & Dallas attempt to remove the creature but its grip is too strong. To make matters worse, when they do cut one of the appendages, its yellow blood is like acid, burning thru 2 decks of the ship!

Inexplicably, the creature disappears! All is well until dinner when the creature literally rips from Kane's chest! Blood & gore fill the room and the remaining 6 know they're in Big Trouble.

A search is on to find the thing, using sophisticated electronic scanning devices. Tension mounts until it's unbearable. In one shocking scene it's not the alien that's caught but the cat belonging to the woman Ripley.

Brett finds the thing next, much to his dismay, while searching for the feline named Jones. He turns around and comes face to face with...

THE ALIEN!

It's now grown tremendously, slightly larger than a man.

The crew is terrified. They are alone in deep space. No one to help them. No way to fight the thing.

Another search is organized and this time Dallas is inside the airshafts, armed with a fire-spitting rifle & a bright light. The creature is being tracked on computer scan and communication is open between Dallas & the others.



"Face it Ash!" says Dallas, "The Alien's got a crush on our Executive Officer."



A pre-production painting by Chris Foss showing the mobile, planetoid-based refinery used to mine distant worlds.

Lambert knows the thing is near but can't quite pinpoint it. Dallas is in the third shaft, practically bathed in total darkness save for the beam of light from his lantern.

"I can't see it!" he cries. "I'm getting out of here!"

Lambert warns him to watch out. It's very close. Dallas turns to look in the other tunnel—and the thing is sitting there!

Now Parker is really upset. Dallas is gone. Nothing left but his rifle. The alien has to be stopped at all cost! Tempers flare & patience is nowhere. The tension still mounts.

Ripley enters the computer room to try to find an answer but is interrupted by Ash. For no apparent reason he attacks her!

She's thrown against the control panels, tossed around like a rag doll. Ash has gone berserk?

Parker & Lambert come to the rescue, bashing the crazed science officer with a pipe, knocking his head off!

We are stunned to see that, like a decapitated chicken, the crazed Ash is still swinging & attacking, even with his head dangling to one side. He's finally stopped after spewing the flaxen ichor all over the computer room. When questioned by Ripley he can only say that the humans aboard are expendable. Parker, in a rage, incinerates what's left of him with his fire rifle.

It's decided to blow up the ship and get away in the shuttle. Lambert & Parker set up the explosives while Ripley prepares the other craft.

Several minutes later she hears screams.

Rushing back to the core of the freighter ship she finds the remains of her companions savagely murdered by the alien!

In panic now, she sets off the computer-controlled explosion which will take place in 10 minutes.

10 minutes and counting!

Destruct signal cannot be altered after 5 minutes!

5 minutes and counting.

5...

7...

Ripley is about to enter the shuttle but the alien is blocking the way! She has to return to the main ship and stop this self-destruct.

6...

Reset the disk, change the systems.

4'

It's too late! The ship will explode in T-minus 5 minutes! Her only chance is to make it back to the shuttle. The alien is nowhere in sight. Time is running out. Only seconds to blast time.

The tiny ship is barely out of range when the giant mother ship explodes in a pyrotechnical coronation that illumines the black void of space like an atomic pancake.

"I've won!" cries Ripley.

Suddenly, a slimy hand reaches from behind some panels. The alien is on board!

Ripley backs up and hides behind the hanging space suits. The thing is restless, its dreadful jaws gaping, deadly teeth dripping a viscous venom from its terrifying throat.

But it plays a waiting game for it knows there is nowhere for its victim to escape.

Breathlessly Ripley gets into one of the spacesuits and locks herself into the contour chair. Slowly she changes the environment within the ship. The creature reacts with shrieks and attempts to attack her.

She flings open the hatch and the suction-ribs the being is to space. But it hangs on with one claw, not yet ready to give up...

When the film was over, people in my audience applauded & cheered. They had been released from the Alien's grip!

In my 30 years of enjoying such movies I have never seen such reaction.

Not with the EXORCIST.

Not with PHANTASM.

Not even with NIGHT OF THE LIVING DEAD.

I saw several people leave the theater and just as many run from the place, sick to their stomachs. Viewers were literally jumping in their seats, screaming aloud, covering the eyes & ears.

I remember seeing the Martian in WAR OF THE WORLDS when I was younger and it scared me quite a bit. I recall being afraid of the witch in WIZARD OF OZ, the horrid goings-on in THE TINGLER and the frightful HOUSE ON HAUNTED HILL.

But this reporter has never been so terrified as the night

he saw a movie that's sure to become a modern classic.
ALIEN, here at last, will last!

* * *

Something Wicked This Way Comes and let it's The Martian Chronicles Himself

RAY BRADBURY

—the Wood Wizard of Fantasy, noted for his alien viewpoints. He says:

A superb film by a new young director who will go very far in the next few years.

The film was somewhat overwhelming at times but the end result was one of total involvement—I felt convinced I was present in the Future at an event from which I could not escape. I believed in what I saw and felt.

The look of the film is incredible.

The horror of it is memorable.

It is probably not everyone's Cosmic Cup of Strange Tea but it will be around for a long while.

The text is: do you want to see it again?

I do.

* * *

NORBERT F. NOVOTNY

—FM's Brazilian Correspondent:

I have been a Science Fiction & Fantasy-in-General buff for many years now but absolutely nothing ever scared me as much as did ALIEN. I was absolutely petrified by the combination of ALL the horror ingredients put together by Director Ridley Scott, i.e., beginning with LOTS of money, a



Captain Dallas and Kane prepare the tripod which will lower the Executive Officer into the Alien's breeding ground.



Lambert, Dallas & Kane enter the huge derelict spaceship on their way to a rendezvous with a deadly, newborn Alien.

very good crew of SFX technicians, the fantastically gruesome but hypnotizing scenery by H.R. Giger and at last but not least the Screenplay & Story Dan O'Bannon & Ronald Shusett supposedly created.

Yes, I meant especially because sci-fi writer A.E. van Vogt was never mentioned in ANYTHING related to the film, such as a pressbook or souvenir book or article.

Being a sci-fi buff I just happened to remember that back in 1939 *Astounding Science-Fiction* published in its December issue a novelet called "Dissected in Scarlet" which has, as anyone can see, practically everything there was in ALIEN. If you'd like to investigate, compare the story written by van Vogt back in 1939 and the screenplay created by O'Bannon & Shusett. Well, since you are reading this anyway, let me introduce you to what I found out:

A.E. van Vogt's story begins with a living creature floating in outer space in search of life to predate. A Terran vessel comes by with a crew of many people and a cat. A WOMAN TAKES CARE OF THAT CAT. The alien by van Vogt is utterly unkillable, has an armored skin and is seeking transportation to rule the new Universe as it did in an old one. It gets the humans in order to use them as "guinea", which in alien language means "next". Specifically, the next of the alien's eggs are the humans' stomachs. You see, I'm not speaking of the film, I'm speaking of it writer A.E. van Vogt's story. And it goes on like this: Van Vogt's alien moves thru walls, metallic walls by rearranging their molecular structure, to pursue its human prey while in the movie the creature is cut by the medics and its blood drips to the floor and stops only a few levels below like boiling oil dropped on frozen butter. In van Vogt's story the alien deposits its eggs inside a human's stomach so that when it grows large enough it will eat its way out, feeding on the human's insides. Now take for instance this part of the story published in 1939 and see if it makes you think about something that you saw in some movie I don't tell you WHAT movie:

... an ugly, round, scarlet head with tiny, beady eyes and a tiny slit of a mouth poked out. The head entered on its short neck, and the eyes glittered up at them with a hard ferocity. And then, with a swiftness that almost took them by surprise, it reared up ... (In the movie it slides away).

And there is another small similarity: the physician is German. Sure there are some differences in both the film & the story by van Vogt, like for instance the alien portrayed in *Astounding* has 4 arms, is red, moves thru the walls like Wolf, actually anyone who wants to create a NEW story HAS to make SOME changes.

So, if you take the 2 stories, the one in the movie by DAN O'BANNON & RONALD SHUSETT and make a general comparison with the story by A.E. van Vogt which is also in print in the pocketbook VOYAGE OF THE SPACE BEAGLE, you get:

AN ALIEN IN OUTER SPACE OVERTAKES HUMANS IN A PASSING VESSEL, A SHIP WITH A VARIED CREW OF BOTH SEXES & A CAT, AN ALIEN THAT FEEDS ON HUMAN FLESH, DEPOSITING ITS EGGS IN THE HUMANS' STOMACHS, A GERMAN DOCTOR, AND IN THE END THE CREW LEAVES THE ALIEN, GETTING AWAY ON SHUTTLES.

Shades of the STAR WARS controversy. "It's OZ! It's FLASH GORDON! Hey, that's from DUNE!" However, I think Novotny's Brazilian background has led him astray on one minor point: Korcia is not a woman's name, suggestive of something like *Deerie*, but the name of a Japanese man; and the "passy" referred to in "Dissected in Scarlet" was not a cat, if I recall correctly, but *Coscul*, from the previous story "Black Destroyer", a huge catlike creature of incredible ferocity that would scarcely be a pet should a human spaceship! However, Novotny is not the only one who feels ALIEN has done a bit of borrowing from the Master Mind of Science Fiction.—Editor

WILLIAM B. ELLERN

—Author of the "Doc" Smith-inspired NEW LENSMAN: IT WAS GREAT!

My wife & I walked into the showing completely cold. The only information on the movie we had seen was the sign-

board out front, of the studio's standard billboard. We had stopped for coffee before the show because my wife felt sleepy and didn't want to fall asleep during the show. We need not have bothered.

I'll tell you frankly that I don't like to be scared. That's why I don't normally go to horror movies or ride on roller coasters—unless someone asks me to. Almost half way thru the film I was sitting there with the same feeling you get after going over the first big dip of a roller coaster. You know in your stomach what the rest of the ride is going to be like and you're hanging on trying to endure your way thru to the end. On a roller coaster you can't get off. In a movie theater you can always cut & run. I was seriously considering doing just that.

I looked around. My wife was slouched down in her seat with her hands over her ears. Her eyes were as large as saucers. The other people around me weren't in much better shape. Slouching down in your seat helps. I endured it! Whewhewhew!

Most scariest horror movies confuse frightening people with just being gross. This one didn't. Others spend a lot of time talking. This one didn't. It didn't spend any time with blood & gore or excessive explanation, it just went for the throat and kept at it.

I came away from the movie glad to have lasted thru it. It's quite an experience. And not remembering what the Alien itself looked like. About the only thing I could really tell anyone about it was "it sure had a lot of teeth!"

The next day I bought a bunch of 20th Century-Fox FC stock. I figured that they had a real winner on their hands and I believe in putting my money where my mouth is. ALIEN won't do the same thing to 20th Century-Fox that STAR WARS did (the stock jumped from \$7 to \$40 a share because the money from STAR WARS made them a lot larger. But it will bring in close to the same amount of gross stuff and by then STAR WARS II will be out.

So far it looks like I'm right. The kids have been begging me to let them see a horror movie ever since I refused to let them see JAWS three years ago. I took them to see ALIEN on Memorial Day. The lines were a block long. I haven't heard a word out of them since. I got a good look at the Alien this time (I wasn't in shock when it came on the screen. Boy, it has a lot of teeth.)

ROBERT JOHN THARP

—Quality Assurance Supervisor of the far-famed Don Post Studios.

It was into the early afternoon on a warm Hollywood day. John Naulin & I were in the studio lab, debating which color blood was preferable for the new Don Post Studios makeup kits.

The door to the laboratory slammed open. Don Post stood in the doorway, blue eyes flashing excitement.

John & I looked at Don expectantly.

"Well?" John asked.

"ALIEN," Don Post said, "is an incredible motion picture!"

"Then ALIEN is good enough for the studio to get involved with?"

"ALIEN deserves the best and that's exactly what we're going to give it. The sets, the spaceships, the music, the suspense, and best of all..."

Don leaned forward. "The Alien!"

"What's the Alien like?" we asked. "What does it look like?"

"It doesn't look like anything I've ever seen before. The Alien is possibly the most unique creature in film yet."

John and I grew more excited. "Tell us about the story!"

Don shook his head. "It could tell you but I want you both to be as swept away as I was. Take it from me, gentlemen, for blood-freezing science fiction, there is nothing like ALIEN!"

John beamed. "That sounds good. Now, what's the plan?"

Don spoke finally. "The plan is this. We are going to work hand-in-glove with 20th Century-Fox Studios. We are going to duplicate the Alien down to the number of slime droplets on its body. We have got the best in the business for this pro-



"Here, kitty, kitty!" But neither man nor monster is about to catch that cat Jones napping.

ject. We're going to devote our energies to doing ALIEN to perfection!"

"Like our NOSFERATU?" I asked.

"Yes, like NOSFERATU."

When Don said that, I was concerned for a moment. Equalling Nosferatu wasn't going to be easy. I remembered the painstaking effort involved with it. Don read my thoughts by my expression and smiled. "Rob, the Nosferatu was the best single item this studio has ever made for the public. But, you know our way—the studio either equals its successes or it surpasses them. Believe me, by the time this project is over the Alien we present for the collectors will have no peers in artistry & quality."

John Naulin nodded. "So when do we start on this project?"

"We already have."

This conversation took place after Don Post attended a secret preview of ALIEN in early May.

Literally under lock & key at 20th Century-Fox's Studio, the top talents in the industry are hard at work again for Don Post. Each day brings them closer to fulfilling Don's demands for perfection.

Everyone who knows anything about this scheme is anxiously awaiting the project's completion.

But everyone will have to be patient. The Don Post Alien will break loose when it's absolutely perfect, and not before.

Rest assured, the wait is unquestionably time well spent. The Don Post Alien will be the finest item the studio has made in its near half-century history.

You have the word of Post on that.

ROSS-Our Man About Hollywood and active filmmonster buff, shares some fascinating inside info with us:

Something moves in the darkness.

Ripley spins, turns her lights toward the movement.

Hanging from the ceiling is a huge cocoon. The body of Dallas inside.

COOOON?

Where? When?

Well, as the story goes, if the higher-ups at 20th hadn't had their way, you would have seen it. Strangely enough, prior to the first (studio) screening in L.A., I'd spoken to Ronald Shusett (a co-writer & the producer) and he too wondered if 20th would leave the scene intact. As a matter of fact at that

same L.A. screening he was not invited. 20th would fly the principal writer & some technicians to a public sneak preview out of state in order to see the audience reaction.

Well, as it happened (allegedly), the people screamed, were sickened or left the theater. So in came the scissors and bits & scenes thought too graphic were snipped. Still sticking with an R rating, due to a stomach-wrenching scene key to the film, 20th played it safe.

When I spoke to Don O'Bannon at a later sneak preview his commentary on the editing was one of very escapist nature. "You should have seen the more graphic version," he said. But he defended cuts too, saying 20th chopped for length.

What scene went? First, if you remember Parker & Lambert being attacked near the end, recall the alien's tail slowly rising between her booted legs; well, earlier in the film, when Brett was the first attacked, that same tail, with its knife-edged point, rose between his legs and drove its end into his spine, killing him and pushing his body forward. Why they allowed the suggestion of this without completion during the film puzzled me and why her body was unclothed when Ripley came upon the corpse lacked explanation.

As for the cocoon, during the earlier portion of the film, after the deaths of Brett & Dallas, Parker loudly questions where the bodies are etc. Near the end, during Ripley's frantic rushabout, she stumbled onto the place where the alien made its nest. In it, hanging from the ceiling, are cocoons, one weblike & transparent, one dark, stone-gray like the alien egg. Inside the web is Dallas, seemingly dead, maggots eating thru his face—and suddenly his eyes flair, staring Ripley. His voice almost inaudibly weeps for mercy. "Kill me! Please... kill me!" She raises her flame-thrower and blasts the chamber into an inferno.

Some scenes were shot of the alien cleanup, of it folded like a weird-looking box, but it was decided this would give us too graphic a look at the beastie, so snip! snip! snip!

Finally, returning to Lambert & Parker's murders, when we see the result of the creature's attack we notice that her bare legs are hung naked but we are not shown why. Well, the alien came thru the airshaft; that's where it shoved the body. This footage & more exists and the Good Word is that ALIEN might be re-released later on with the X-rated footage included for the strong of stomach & spine who have survived the R-rated version and want to go All The Way with ALIEN!

STAR TREK sleeping bag

Star Trek sleeping bag is a terrific way to get into Star Trek & your own star studded dreamland! A quilted bag with coveralls, full face, separating zipper, full of fluffy synthetic fiber - 16 lbs. weight without weight! Comes with drawstring toe thru strap tote bag & cover action scenes of Star Trek series! #29657/\$23.95

NEW! AMAZING SCI-FI MODELS



FLYING SAUCER From Voyage to the Bottom of the Sea comes this super incredible model modeled at 1:80 scale in bright yellow and black. 7 1/2" wing span. The play home and has a variable loop showing detailed interior! #242359/\$5.95



TIE FIGHTER From the famous science fiction TV show The Mos Defeat! This 7 1/2" diameter model is modeled to snap together plastic, comes with excellent landing gear, alien tentacles & seven "blasts"! #242802/\$5.95

NEW! ALIEN NEW!

ALIEN



MUSIC COMPOSED BY JERRY GOLDSMITH
CONDUCTED BY LUCIEN NEUMAN
LE FOLIO BY
THE NATIONAL PHILHARMONIC
ORCHESTRA

ALIEN RECORD!

Twentieth Century Fox presents the soundtrack of Alien composed by Academy Award winner Jerry Goldsmith! This is a masterpiece film score of incredible power and intensity! Relive each horrifying moment of Alien's original music! #23902/\$7.98

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ALIEN EGG IRON-ON
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#201801/\$3.25

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ALIEN CHASE TARGET SET From Alien, the movie, a huge 33" tall outline target of the alien, extraterrestrial that shoots 3 harmless plastic pellets & ringing bell for scoring! #26169/\$5.95



ALIEN BLASTER TARGET SET

ALIEN BLASTER AND TARGET SET Comes with self-standing target, 3 wind-up targets, extraterrestrial shoots plastic action tipped darts. Target 12"x18"x1" #26569/\$12.95



ALIEN PAPERBACK

ALIEN

In honor of you and your favorite creature.



ALIEN PAPERBACK: Allen Dean Foster renews the novel in the depths of space the crew of the Nostromo encounters an awesome galactic horror. The real horror begins when they meet the alien within! #2136/\$5.25

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THE BOOK OF ALIEN Here are the designs, sketches and blueprints rendered by four of the top science fiction artists in the western world: Moebius, Chris Foss, Ron Cobb and M.R. Giger! And there are interviews with the Art Directors, Costume Designers, Producers, Directors and Screenwriters. A 96-page soft-cover with 50 in full color! #2126/\$7.95

THE BOOK OF ALIEN



ALIEN: THE ILLUSTRATED STORY



ALIEN: THE ILLUSTRATED STORY: Walt Simonson and Archie Goodwin have teamed up to bring you Alien in full color, vibrant illustrations! A story not to be imagined in your wildest dreams or nightmares! Relive the movie through Walt Simonson's superb illustrations and Archie Goodwin's text style! #2137/\$12.95

MYSTERY PHOTO

HE IS ABSOLUTELY AP-PAULING

#119 IS IT THE MAD DOCTOR OF
MARKET STREET? THE FACE
BEHIND THE MUSK?
THE ABOMINABLE DR. HIVES?

He'll never win a beauty contest!
And why is he choking this girl?
Maybe she didn't care for his type
of music. If only Lon Chaney could
see this! One thing is certain: Rock
& Roll was never like this. Looks
like too many rocks hit this guy!
Unscramble the clue below and
you'll have the name of the movie
this man was in.

O THE PRIDE OF A PHANTASM



ANSWER MYSTERY PHOTO No.118

They were the ZOMBIES OF MOBA TAU. Among those
who correctly identified earlier Mystery Photo (#116) as
THE BLACK SLEEP were JOE SMITH JR., BORIN KERRY, LES-
LIE KLIERBER, PARKER ANDERSON, STEVEN SCHLINGENSIEK,
RAY ROYCE JR., JAY BLAYLOCK, RAYMOND DIECHMUE,
DEBRA LOTTE, TOM KNOWLTON, WM. MIKALIK, SHAWN
SMERDAN, THOS. ANTONIELLO, JEFF PFEIFFER, TIMOTHY
ENGEL, GEOFF O'KEEFE, JEROME MURPHY, KEN WILCOX,
MARK BERGER, JOHN D. MURPHY, STEVE FLICK, STEVE
MARTIN, JOHN JENSEN, JEFF GRACEYK, STUART CROM-
SHAW, RICHARD MATCHAM, DOUGLAS RUSO JR., JOHN
NELTON, WM. VAN VOLKENBURG & BORIN ST. JAMES.



TIME AFTER TIME

the shape of things uncalm

JACK THE RIPPER meets HG Wells —?! Sounds like a brainstorm (or a painstorm) that came to Robert Bloch in a nightmare after he holted down a spicy Mexican meal topped off by a not fudge sundae & a tootie-frowzy phosphate! A meal that he holted down . . . hut the rivets came loose.

Anyway, we gotta admit it's a riveting idea for a farout film.

HG Wells, alive & well in 1979!

Jack the Ripper, alive and . . . well —! in 1979.

What a premise for a sci-fi chase film!

no ripoff

An original idea, if there ever was one.

Wells himself, of course, was famous for them.

—Spedded up evolution, producing "manimals" in "The Island of Dr. Moreau" (twice filmed).

—THE INVISIBLE MAN (immortalizing Claude Rains).

—WAR OF THE WORLDS (immortalizing Orson Wells & George Pal).

—And, of course, "The Time Machine" itself!

prior to the plot

In Geo. Pal's cinemadaptation of Well's transportation classic a man had invented a machine capable of carrying him thru time.

Into the future or into the past!

Leaving turn-of-century London, the Time Traveler finds that life in the 20th Century isn't

what it's cracked up to be. He finds war & famine, destruction all around. And in a great war in the latter part of the 20th Century the Time Traveler finds that "civilization" was not satisfied to destroy itself with chemical bombs & guns, now there's atomic power!

As he stands there, confused & alone, he sees people flee in panic & terror. He is warned to take cover, to protect himself. But he cannot comprehend what is about to take place.

Suddenly there's a tremendous explosion!

An atomic bomb has dropped somewhere in England.

The Time Traveler is smart enough to know it's time to take off! And hopping into the machine he rushes thousands of years into the future.

More than 800,000 years later the weary traveler discovers that the future is not that great either.

A meek & mild people called Eloi inhabit a tranquil land, happy & singing hy day, terrified by night.

The object of their fears is a race of cannibalistic creatures called Morlocks. It seems that in this far-distant era man has separated into 2 species, one peaceful, the other terribly onimous & evil. The Morlocks raise the Eloi like cattle, to use as food! And the Eloi eat nothing hut fruits & vegetables, their life & outlook drab & hopeless.

Wells' prophecy of the future may or may not prove true. If humanity survives another 800,000 years perhaps we'll know for sure. His imagina-



Ripping thru Time, HG Wells Himself (portrayed by Malcolm McDowell) is in hot pursuit of the sadistic slasher Jack.

tion has graced many a page and his works have been turned into feature movies & TV productions.

Now Warner Bros. brings Wells to us in 1979 in a way that the great master would approve. They replace the Time Traveler with Wells himself! The result is fantastic.

starting time

TIME AFTER TIME takes us thru time in a most fascinating way. We begin our journey in old London circa 1893.

We meet a young inventor named HG Wells who is about to tell the world of his latest invention.

A Time Machine! Not a mere watch or clock. No sophisticated mathematical astronomer's timepiece. No.

A machine that can move thru time! Not as a car moves thru air, or a plane soars thru the sky. While each has movement, a car gliding over the road cutting thru the air and a plane gliding thru the clouds, each is fixed in its proper time zone, its own dimension.

Moving thru time is quite a different thing. And young Wells has perfected a way to do just that!

The Machine is situated in his home where is about to show it to several close friends. One of those in attendance is the brilliant Dr. Stevenson (David Warner).

Wells shows off his work, a glistening machine of unusual nature. His colleagues are both bewildered & amused, their interest high. While Wells discusses the uses of his creation his jubilation is disrupted by a knock at the door.

"Excuse the intrusion, sir!" says the policeman outside Wells' door.

It seems that Jack the Ripper has claimed another victim and the police are conducting a thorough investigation, a house-to-house search. Wells, having nothing to hide, invites them in.

He shows them around the house, introduces them to his guests and makes idle chatter. All is fine until they search Dr. Stevenson's little black bag.

There, beneath the tools of his trade, the police inspector finds a pair of bloody gloves & a scalpel!

Convinced they have found their killer they turn to arrest Dr. Stevenson but he has slipped away. Wells is horrified. He cannot believe that his best friend could do such a thing.

Worse yet, Stevenson has taken the Time Machine!

time flies

Time may exist and each of us travels thru it every day of our lives. But Time is not fixed and is prone to change. We're all familiar with Time Warps & Time Ripples. Whatever we choose to call them Time has way of doing strange things. Dr. Stevenson moves into the future to a time & place he had never dreamed of — San Francisco,

USA, in 1979!

Back in London, Wells is upset. He feels personally responsible for permitting this maniacal killer to escape into the future. His vision of 1979 is a Utopia, where man lives in peace & harmony. The elements have been tamed, there's abundant food & energy. Color & religion don't count. If that were true, sending a demented killer into such a society would be a terrible thing to do!

So Wells vows to find Stevenson and end his future reign of terror. In his mind such a beautiful future cannot be destroyed by so evil & irresponsible a fiend.

As the story develops, several other subplots surface. Wells does find Stevenson and he also finds true love in the 20th Century. A young girl named Amy Robbins, who happens to be an employee with the Bank of London, falls in love with Wells and helps him find Dr. Stevenson.

The plot of TIME AFTER TIME is complex yet interesting & topical. The movie is certainly sci-fi but is laced with comedy, romance & social commentary on modern times. At times it's a downright thriller as Wells chases his foe thru modern San Francisco.

where's the brave new world?

There is no Utopia, of course, and Wells has plenty to say about that. He finds that things aren't better in 1979 but as he puts it, "They are more efficient."

The Time Machine used in the film is quite impressive. It's made mostly of fiberglass on metal framework and the machine itself uses Solar Power!

Sound fantastic? Not really. Back in 1882 a French inventor & engineer named Abel Pifre created something quite startling for its day.

—A solar-powered printing press!
So Wells' Time Machine utilizes the power of the sun to move about thru time. It certainly adds realism to the production and saves on fuel bills!

Much of the filming was done in and around San Francisco where another sci-fi thriller was made, INVASION OF THE BODY SNATCHERS. For this new movie locations were used such as Ghirardelli Square, The Golden Gate Park, The Marina, Muir Woods & other famous landmarks.

There's a unique feature about this new Time Machine. Much like the one used in George Pal's film of 1960, the Machine relies on a very special rod or key for it to function properly. In the new version, if the key is removed, whoever is sitting in the machine simply ceases to exist and finds themselves in a state of limbo. That is the fate of Dr. Stevenson who attempts to escape in the Machine. Wells pulls the key just in time (so to speak) and the doctor is dematerialized and sent into a nether-void.



Right, Nicholas Meyers, author & director of the film, contemplates the time machine Argo in the company of the film's star.

behind the scenes

The production crew & actors on **TIME AFTER TIME** are first rate.

Herb Jaffe produced the film after seeing Nicholas Meyer's script. He felt that it has all the essential qualities of a great film. Jaffe was responsible for **DEMON SEED** with Julie Christie.

Nicholas Meyer directed the film based on his own screenplay. While this was his first film, he has written several high-powered novels including "The 7% Solution", a Sherlock Holmes story. Working on TV he did the screenplay for *The Night That Panicked America*, based on the Orson Wells radio broadcast of 1938. For those not familiar with the details, Orson Wells & his Mercury Theater group put on a live show from New York. They did their version of HG Wells' classic "The War of the Worlds", only they moved the location to modern times. Radio audiences in 1938 believed that the Martians were landing in New Jersey! The show was that convincing. (For vivid re-creating of that memorable night see FM 149).

The Time Machine for this movie was built under the supervision of Edward Carfagno. If that name doesn't sound familiar maybe this will jar your memory:

Edward won 2 Academy Awards for his work



McDowell in MacDonald's! HG Wells has a hamburger?



In the final confrontation, Jack the Ripper (David Warner) threatens Herbert George's girlfriend (Mary Steenburgen) in the museum where Wells' time machine is on display.

on BEN-HUR & JULIUS CEASAR. He was also on the staff behind THE HINDENBURG & METEOR. His work on the great Time Machine is impressive. The movie doesn't rely too heavily on mind-boggling effect nor does it dwell on matte work or miniatures.

It does come across as a beautifully choreographed piece of film, graceful & smooth. When Wells is traveling thru time we see him sitting in the Machine and time is literally passing him by. We hear sounds and sense that there are sights blurring the screen. It's an odd sensation, perhaps close to an actual sensation of time travel.

the potent players

Malcolm McDowell plays HG Wells Sci-fi fans will remember him in Stanley Kubrick's CLOCKWORK ORANGE in which he played Alex, the head Droog.

Malcolm has appeared in many other feature films & TV productions but is most memorable in CLOCKWORK ORANGE. It was a visual tour-de-force and his role was a difficult one as he changed from vicious gang member to meek & mild, plain old Alex, then back to his former self at film's end.

The part of Jack the Ripper, alias Dr. Steven-



A victim of Jack is dragged up from her watery grave.



The Streets of San Francisco were never like this! A welcome for Wells that the Master Mind of Science Fiction never anticipated.

son, is handled by David Warner, another fine actor with a list of numerous credits. You can catch him in the current NIGHTWING, about vampire-bats attacking the southwestern United States, and he was nominated for an Emmy in TV's *Holocaust*. The character he plays in TIME AFTER TIME is one of change, much like Alex in CLOCKWORK. He is normal, well-meaning, brilliant doctor and chessplayer. Yet he is a killer, striking at night, slashing his victims with a scalpel.

Wells' girlfriend, Amy Robbins, is played by newcomer Mary Steenburgen, a young & lovely lass who previously appeared in only one other movie. When she meets the time-tripping Wells they trip together in a love-oriented relationship that is both tender & comical.

preview report

FM just spoke with a young man who has seen a preview of the film and Jason tells us:

"You come away from the theater feeling good! It's like seeing a Frank Capra film. You're excited, thrilled, it's amusing & sad, most important it's a fun movie.

"It's the kind of thing that leaves you with a new sense of values & judgment. It's like seeing the WIZARD OF OZ or STAR WARS. You leave the theater feeling you've learned a valuable lesson in human (or inhuman) behavior. You just feel good."

the shape of wells to come?

While we don't know for sure, and nothing has been said either in rumor or casual conversation, it's likely that there *could* be a sequel to this movie. It ends in such a way that there could be more to come.

The Further Adventures of HG Wells?

The Future Adventures of HG Wells?

With nothing but time on his side it's likely that there could be a sequel or a series of stories surrounding the Great Machine!

Looking back in time we see that there is a trend.

CREATURE FROM THE BLACK LAGOON was set free at the end of the film. Oh sure, he was shot and sinking to the bottom of the lagoon, but we knew better. He made 2 more appearances.

Then there was FRANKENSTEIN and THE WOLF MAN & the MUMMY. Look how many times they came back. And let's not forget DRACULA.

No one really believed that Darth Vader had died in STAR WARS as his ship went spiraling thru space. He's back in THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK.

And how about those hamished criminals in SUPERMAN? We're sure to see them again.

So it's just a matter of time.

What they have created here is a timeless subject that could go on till the end of time.

MOS EISLEY'S CANTINA

*where
life is
a song*

by frank lee aylyen

BUBBLEHEADS!
HORN-BEAK FACES!
BUGEYED MONSTERS!

BEM is the word, as it was for so many years in sciencefiction stories.

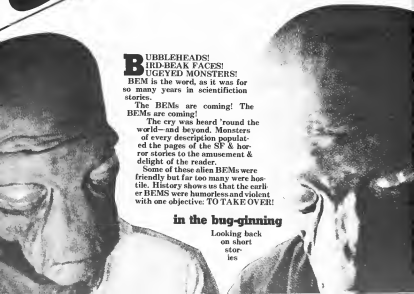
The BEMs are coming! The BEMs are coming!

The cry was heard 'round the world—and beyond. Monsters of every description populated the pages of the SF & horror stories to the amusement & delight of the reader.

Some of these alien BEMs were friendly but far too many were hostile. History shows us that the earlier BEMs were humorless and violent with one objective: TO TAKE OVER!

in the bug-ginning

Looking back
on short
stories





It's always Fear Weather when Ghoul Fellows get together. Meet Th' Gang at Mos' Place.

like Fitz-James O'Brien's "What Was It?", written during the mid-1800s, he reported an invisible dwarf-like creature that came to Earth in a most unusual way. The thing attacked but there was no way to see it since the human eye could not discern its structure.

Finally the alien being was captured and held while plaster could be poured over it. The result was a nightmarish monster cast in one of the most horrible statues ever made. The tiny BEM died in the end and was buried. But were there more out there?

Author/scientist HG Wells told us about alien invaders from Mars in his classic "War of the Worlds." These were black, tar-like slugs that slithered about the Earth, weighed down by the heavier gravity on our planet. Their tentacle arms reached out menacingly for anything & everything. Nothing friendly here.

the fearsome 50s

The 1950s (filmwise) gave us every kind of BEM imaginable and few were what could be considered friendly. And they were most certainly not *cute*! There were the blobs & brains & things & the radioactive giants. There were the moles & insects & terrorists from beyond space.



"Lissen, Cag, who yon callin' a dirty rat?"

With the arrival of the 1960s things began to change. Not only social things but alien things!

Stanley Kubrick's 2001: A SPACE ODYSSEY took us on a trip thru 4 millions years of humankind's history on Earth, then to a mind-boggling excursion into outer space. While it was assumed that we were being watched by some intelligent beings, we never got a look at them. We have to go on the assumption that they were beneficial since they seemed to help us.

things looking black

First it was the appearance of the Black Monolith that taught the apes how to hunt for food and be cunning. It took cons to develop from that stage to the next and suddenly it was 2001 where hundreds of military satellites circled the Earth and a giant Space Wheel served as a hotel & launching site for trips to the moon. And on the moon earthlings found their next step in a buried monolith which led them to Jupiter for the next change in human evolution.

Even as the lone astronaut went thru the metamorphosis in the French Provincial bedroom and became the Star Child, we never saw the aliens. We heard them with their unusual apelike sounds but they were never seen.

So where do we go from here?

Not to 2001 but to 1977 and a blockbuster movie called STAR WARS.

The movie means a lot of different things to different people. Some take it seriously, others consider it to be just plain fun. I remember my first reactions. It was like Flash Gordon & Wizard of Oz & a great John Wayne western all rolled into one. After seeing it a dozen times I was just as excited & thrilled, leaving the theater happy & feeling good.

You probably wonder why a western. Of course I'm referring to the famous Cantina scene at Mos Eisley.

dantesville

Whether it be Jesse James or Marshall Matt Dillon, no outlaw, sheriff or man of the west has ever come upon a town so vile, so disgusting, so bad as Mos Eisley.

Tombstone Territory was a garden spot compared to Mos Eisley. Dodge City was a Disneyland and the Ponderosa Ranch was a playground compared to—MOS EISELEY!!

Oti-Wan had warned Luke about the place before they arrived. Looking at it, from high above the valley, it even looked dangerous from far away!

But young Luke Skywalker had to go there.

There was no sign that read: Welcome To Mos Eisley.

In fact, there was very little there except parked, desert land & old, decrepit buildings. The streets were patrolled by Stormtroopers and vehicles & droids of every description flowed by.

There was a spot that stood out from the rest of

the desolation. A meeting place for every sort of undesirable in the galaxy. A place where one could go and have a good bad time.

Like losing an arm or hand to a Laser Sword!

don't lose your head

Fighting with a deformed, demented criminal wanted in 13 different solar systems!

Or being sought & killed by the Imperial Stormtroopers!

And where is this fun place?

The Mos Eisley Cantina!

By now it's history. From one end of the galaxy to the other, to the ends of the universe and even in the local cantinas on other planets, the word is out.

Han Solo, Oti-Wan & Luke Skywalker caused quite a disturbance at the ol' drinking hole.

But what of the regular crowd, the local & not-so-local denizens who inhabit the place day after day? And night after night?

Do they care about the bounty on Han Solo's head?

Are they interested in the reward for Luke or the Princess?

Do the affairs of the Imperial Stormtroopers concern them?

ace in the hole

In order to find out the answers to these and other burning questions, FM has sent one of its ace reporters to Mos Eisley Cantina for this exclusive report. (We just received word from our newsworthy that he is being taken away to an Imperial prison, accused of being a spy!)

Transmission stations posted around the galaxy relayed his message for all to hear. It is with great pride that we bring you this report:

"Biff Steele reporting from the Mos Eisley Cantina. In this most unusual thing-on-the-street interview we will give you first hand information and in-depth reporting.

"As I wander around the room I see before me an odd assembly of creatures. There in the corner are two . . . er, well . . . let's see if we can get a word with them.

"Excuse me! I'm a reporter from FM and . . ."

At this point the 2 aliens sort of stared at each other, then at Biff Steele. Their bulging eyes never blinked and their grashopper-like expression never changed but it was clear that they did not wish to be bothered!

"I'm moving out to the main floor now. There's quite a party going on here. All kinds of people & costumes. At least some of these folk are having a good time!"

"I can remember visiting some pubs back on Earth and I used to think that those people were strange. But this place is too much! Over across the dance floor, for instance. There's a guy standing there . . . well, I think it's a guy, dressed in a brown robe. He looks a little like a turtle without a shell.



"I'll have a malted milk," sees Shurty Snorty at the Mos Eisley Bar—just before getting thrown out on his big ear.



"Make it one for my baby and one more for the rogue."



Which one is the fake alien? (Clue: check out the hands.)



"I'll match your bet and raise you 50 million weetongs," sez Big Time Gambler in Mos Eisley's Oasis.

doughboy

"And next to him... Gee, how do I describe this to an audience millions of miles away? I've got it. Do you remember playing with that kids' dough when you were young? And you shaped & molded it like clay? Well, if you took some of that and made a face on it, then pulled it back and stretched it out, that's what he'd look like!

"Another one in the background looks like he was caught in a vacuum cleaner. All very odd.

"Right before I left for this assignment the publisher sent me to see a new movie called ALIEN. It's all part of the job for me but it left a bad taste in my mouth. Seeing that and having to be here just doesn't sit well! I see a tall bald man wearing a long robe talking with a beautiful young woman. He's almost normal except for one thing... There's an alien-like starfish something-or-other covering his eyes, nose & part of his mouth!

is that bar tender?

"Moving thru the crowd now I think I'll try to reach the bar and order one of the house specialties. If I can attract the bartender's attention, that is!

"Yeah? the gruff man bellowed. 'Whatcha want?'

"Gimme the house special."

"The man laughed. 'Are you sure?' he asked. 'I glanced around the room. Everyone else seemed to be enjoying their drinks without any ill effect so I decided to go for it.

"That'll be 10 credits," the man told me. While I thought it was rather high I decided it was best to remain silent.

what a gag!

"Walking toward the end of the bar I was about to attempt an interview with a bear-like alien when I took a sip from the glass.

"How can I describe the horror that followed! It

was like swallowing raw crude oil mixed with perfume. I nearly choked & gagged but not wanting to seem too out of place did everything in my power to remain composed. And I went on with the interview.

"The bear-man told me he was visiting relatives stationed at an outpost nearby and had stopped in 2 days ago for a drink. It seems that his planet has been overrun by Wookies and the balance of population was getting out of hand. "The Wookies are a nice lot," he told me, 'but there are just too many of 'em!'

"He never did get around to telling me what his particular race was called but he had the face of a bear, the ears of a bat & clawlike hands. His movements were slow & deliberate and I wasn't sure if it was part of his nature or if he had just been in the Cantina too long!

"Another alien, a kind of bald walrus-like creature with glaring black eyes, told me he knew why there was an energy problem at Mos Eisley.

it's syntul

"It started here," he said, 'and it's growing! Pretty soon it'll spread to the rest of the planet and then into space. I know! I know!' he insisted as he drank a hefty portion of the (ugh!) house special. 'It's those droids! The droids consume more oil than any other machinery on this planet! They're in constant need of repair. Everything else around here runs on solar power & synfuels but not the droids. Get rid of 'em, I say! Who needs 'em?'

"I moved on to the next customer, sitting by himself in a small corner. He was trying to speak with me but I couldn't understand his language. We finally gave up. It was obvious that he had made every attempt to translate his message for me but I just wasn't prepared to comprehend the many alien dialects in Mos Eisley. On Earth it was easy to understand the guy from Brooklyn or the gal from LA but this was totally different.

a word to the wise...

"Before I turned to leave he tried to shake my hand, which proved to be a painful experience. His clawed hands resembled a lobster's and his grasp was like a vise!

"I must admit that I got great enjoyment from the band and their outta-right instruments. I had the best seat: front & center. I learned that the group was on tour from a point 16 light-years distant and would be leaving shortly for another stop at the Som Yelsie Cantina on the other side of the planet. It was a family act with Ma & Pa playing lead instruments and various sons & daughters doing the backup. I was especially impressed with the synthesizers they used. I tried to make a deal with the manager to appear on Earth but they're booked up until late 1997.

"Finally I got to talk with a most unusual fellow whom I nicknamed Flyface. He had 2 great bulbous eyes on either side of his head and his bluish complexion & long fangs gave him an unsightly appearance but he was a rather nice individual.



One Drink of Xeno in Mos Eisley's Cantina and you see Pink Elephants--or Pink Elephants see YOU!

fly in the ointment

"Flyface told me he had been a prisoner at one of the Imperial Strongholds for 3 years. When the Stormtroopers invaded his home planet of Hel Pme he was taken away as a spy just because he betted an eye the wrong way or something.

"I told him that things like that just didn't happen. Guards just don't come along and take people off because they feel like it. But he insisted that's what happened so what was I to say?

"Anyhow, we talked some more and he pointed out several other visiting aliens at the Cantina. I asked him where the local people were, if anybody lived in Mos Eisley.

"He was quick to say that no one really lived there if they could help it. It was more of a stopping-off place. Pointing to some rough-looking characters near the side door he said that they had escaped from a penal colony but no one would dare turn them in.

"Judging by the way they looked I could see why! Big, hulking brutes covered with hair, each weighing at least 7 or 800 pounds. I doubt that even a hand-laser would phase them!

fly-spy & he can't flee

"Flyface has been telling me about the great galactic war that is about to erupt. The doors to

the Cantina suddenly burst open and Stormtroopers are stomping in. Many of the patrons are fleeing. One of the white-clad officers is approaching me. He looks menacing . . ."

* * *

Editor's note: The conversation was cut off at this point and we're not really sure what happened. One eyewitness (and he had 48 eyes) told our news staff that because our reporter was seen talking to a known spy, he too was considered a spy and therefore dangerous to the Empire. The publisher is arranging his bail bond (a billion krediteks) at this time and we're all hoping for his release. We understand the fly-folk of Hel Pme (and anyone caught with them) are imprisoned by being dropped in huge spider webs . . . guarded by starved Black Widows.

In the meantime, we would suggest that a visit to Mos Eisley may not be the ideal vacation or fun stop for the weekend while traveling in the space-time continuum. An unusual time is guaranteed for all but you never know when the festivities may be interrupted and you may be hauled away to some faroff space slammer.

We hope the holograms smuggled back from the notorious dive will serve to curb your curiosity.

Remember: curiosity killed a cat.

And that goes for aliens as well as humans and, er, filmmonster fans.

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FLEISCHER DIES

his animation ends

DAVE FLEISCHER 14 July 1894 to 25 June 1978

DAVE FLEISCHER, the last of the great cartoon animators, died of a stroke at age 84. His work in the field was a significant contribution to the art of motion picture animation. It was often said that Fleischer's work was equal to or superior to that of Walt Disney.

Dave and his brother Max began their career in 1929 at the Bray Studio where they produced the now classic *Out of the Inkwell* series featuring Koko the Clown. These particular cartoons were shown to TV audiences in the 1950s & 60s, opening the way for other vintage cartoons from the Golden Days of Animation.

Moving to Hollywood, Max & Dave opened their own studio and worked closely with Paramount Pictures where they created *Betty Boop* and the famous "Follow the Bouncing Ball" cartoons. These cartoons were featured in theaters as late as the 1960s and people would sing along while the little bouncing ball pointed out each word of the song.

The Fleischer Bros. released a couple of classic animated shorts as well. One dealt with *Gulliver's Travels* and the other featured Popeye as a *Sindbad*-type character who went to a mythical island. The animation in both was incredible.

Long before Kirk Alyn or George Reeves ever played in the serials or Christopher Reeve starred as the Man of Steel in the recent movie, Dave Fleischer had created a series of animated Superman cartoons that boasted the most fantastic color in movement ever seen in this type of work. Dave was able to achieve a fluid motion that few animators could ever hope to accomplish. Also, in the Kirk Alyn film *Fleischer* did the animation for the special flying sequences!

In 1962 it was Dave Fleischer who created the animated attacks of Alfred Hitchcock's *THE BIRDS* and in 1972 Dave won the Anni, an animation award. He was nominated twice for the Academy Award.



When *THE BIRDS* attacked, DAVE FLEISCHER handled the animation sequences.

END

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To avoid any cutting remarks, the ole Shock Doc slipped out of his shroud long enough to do a little work to try to please the creepy crowd. If you want to keep him busy, send your requests (on a postcard only) to Shock Doc, % FAMOUS MONSTERS, Warren Pub. Co., 145 E. 32 St., NYC 10016.



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For the Billions of Fans of Rick Baker, the STAR WARS Cantina Scene above and, below, we show you inside the Secret Studio of the Fabulous Monster Maker.



**YOU AXED
FOR IT!**



A role for Ter Johnson, had he but lived. This Horror Heavy is from the forthcoming **ARABIAN ADVENTURES**. (Shown for King Tut, Son of Tut; Im-ha-tep; Kharis' mommy; and others as numerous as grains of sand on the deserts of Egypt.)



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Recognize these guys? They're Stormtroopers from the film the French fans call LA GUERRE DES ÉTOILES and all English-speaking fans have been calling GREAT STAR WARS!

Christopher Lee's favorite film has been released at last and made a hit with his fans. Here we see 3 comely young ladies (lead by lovely Ingrid Pitt on the left) about to make a hit with the Hunchback of Clown Town.



**YOU AXED
FOR IT!**



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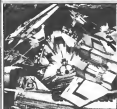


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BATTLESTAR

Answer the following questions, or fill in the blanks, using letters found in the word **BATTLESTAR**. You may use each letter only one time per answer.

1. What **BEN** was?
2. Where you **Trek**?
3. What **Jack** the Ripper did
4. It came from 20,000 futures.
5. The **PSYCHO** guy
6. A Cave _____, one of the creatures fought by the Son of Kong
7. A black _____, the alien "alarm clock" in 2001
8. The **GALACTICA** bubble
9. What **Nero** sailed beneath
10. _____ from the Crypt

DIS GUY'S DISGUISE

Reader Steve Finklea of Framingham, MA recently sent us a quiz which we'd like to share with GE fans. He calls it, "a game about Hollywood's coolest men"—all you need do is match the creature with the creature.

- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| 1. Dick Smith | a. Demon Baby (IT'S ALIVE) |
| 2. Rick Bauer | b. Goats (STAR WARS) |
| 3. Len Chany, Sr. | c. The Thing (From Another World) |
| 4. Steve Noll | d. The Vampire (LONDON AFTER MIDNIGHT) |
| 5. Wally Westmore | f. Frankenstein's Monster (Karloff) |
| 6. Stuart Freedman | g. PLANET OF THE APES |
| 7. Jack Pierce | h. Pagan (THE EXORCIST) |
| 8. Lee Remick | i. The Werewolf (THIS ISLAND EARTH) |
| 9. John Chambers | j. Mr. Hyde (Freddie March) |
| 10. Bud Westmore | k. Billy Dracula (LASHING) |

KING KONG: EAT YOUR HEART OUT!

This screams the headline of a story being circulated by the Associated Press. According to the wire service, a four-year-old, forty-five-pound male monkey escaped from a cage breaking the chain which secured it. After two hours, the monkey's female owner was able to coax the primate from someone's porch back into captivity. Mr. her name was not Jill Young. ... The site of this adventure: Bartonsville, Oklahoma.

MONSTERS OF THE MONTH



PETER SAWO



LARRY KNIGHT



BRIAN GRAY

SPEAKING OF KONG...

... the great ape's back in THE FLESH—in the FUR, in the case may be. This summer, the Empire State Building in New York City has the legendary Skull Island native guesting visitors in its state-of-the-art observatory. Wearing a shaggy ape suit and earning fifty dollars a day, actor Richard Kiplars welcomes children to the tower and blows up balloons for them. Richard was out over 150 hopefuls, all of whom had read an ad in the newspaper SHOW BUSINESS. The call-to-hairy arms read, in part, "Must love kids and be able to sweat out summer in sticky, hairy garb. No need to jump off building." As his cinematic namesake, the career of the new Kong will end in the fall.

MONSTER FILE MOONRAKER

The most of the space shenanigans which are seen at the James Bond film **MOONRAKER**. Built by Roger Moore, each plane is launched via a huge launch rocket, which is discarded when the shuttle reaches orbit. To control the atmosphere, the **MOONRAKER** simply flies back to earth like an airplane. The one difference is it set a powered return. The **MOONRAKER** drifts to a landing just like a glider.

In **MOONRAKER**, there were no laser-wired **MOONRAKERS** to ferry males and females to the space station, there to launch a new and perfect race of humans. These ships are all based on the actual designs for NASA's space shuttle due for launch into space later this year. The special effects in the film were supervised by model master Derek Winkler, who worked under the supervision of science expert Eric Burgess. For further details about **MOONRAKER**, see the ad for **MOONRAKER** Publisher's special, exclusive **MOONRAKER** Magazine, on the back cover of this issue.



THE PRINTED WEIRD

Although **BATTLESTAR GALACTICA** has been cancelled—along with the previously announced specials, once producer Glen Larson is too busy working on **Rocky Horror** for NBC—**BATTLESTAR GALACTICA** continues to appear. From October the 1981 **BATTLESTAR GALACTICA** calendar. From Pat West, THE **BATTLESTAR GALACTICA** STORY BOOK. Finally, a second **Photostory** is scheduled for publication to coincide with the planned December release of another theatrical film, which from the **BATTLESTAR GALACTICA** TV series.

A final and very unusual issue from McGraw Hill, A PICTORIAL HISTORY OF UFOs. The 112-page book features a wealth of intriguing photographs, many of them from the **File**—the recently declassified Project Blue Book files. It's a UFO-nerd's dream, the volume is a must for your library.

HEAVYARD EXAMINER CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

FANG MAIL

(Continued from page 10)

WANTED! More Readers Like



CINDY HOUGHTON

FOOBY ON FORRY

Why do you insist on doing filmbooks on such cheap & undeserving films as the **LDST CONTINENT & UNDYING MONSTER**? Why not focus on some recent movies? You have totally neglected films like **THE OMEN**, **CARRIE**, **THE FURY**, **DEMON SEED**, **DRACA** and the list goes on & on. And granted, once in a while you do stories on current flicks, but the movies are always cheap **NIP** movies such as **INCREDIBLE MELTING MAN** or **FOOD OF THE GODS**, which should be burned & forgotten about.

Secondly, why do you always put **Dino's** **KING** down. I personally think that the new **KING** is far superior to the original. And what's all this fuss about **METROPOLIS**. I have seen it on TV and thought it was junk.

I wish you would stop printing stories on such trash actors as Bela Lugosi. I know most horror fans will consider this blasphemous but it is hardly false. He could never act well and even in his most famous part as Dracula he misplayed the role badly.

Finally, I would like to say that **FM** is dropping in quality. The reason for this is because of Forry. He mishandles the articles and too often interrupts an article by adding his 2 bits which I for one don't care too much for.

TIM BUNKEL
Palis, N.J.

May I put in my 2 bites worth? When I die, I guess we know who will be the first to apply for editorship of **FM**. Then there'll be no more dumb articles on rotten Bela Lugosi or boring bombas like Lon Rowang in **METROPOLIS** AFTER MIDNIGHT.

COFFIN'S COMMENTS

Mel Brooks certainly had the right idea when he did **YOUNG FRANKENSTEIN**; too bad the producers of **LDVE AT FIRST BITE** weren't as inspired. It seems that (according to this film) Dracula has, over the years, developed from a dangerous demon into a debonair disco dancer. This image doesn't sit well with the Lord of the Undying (the only scene in the film of Vladamar attacking an unwilling victim seems oddly out of place). George Hamilton adds flair to the role of Dracula (a la Bela Lugosi) but the real star of the movie is Richard Benjamin as the inept descendant of Van Helsing in pursuit of the vampire. Comedy & horror can be combined to produce a winning formula; **THE FEARLESS VAMPIRE KILLERS** proved that, as did several episodes of **THE NIGHTSTALKER** with Darren McGavin, so there's still hope.

As an avid reader of **FAMOUS MONSTERS** since #32, I've seen some pretty gory sights but few have been as graphic as those in George Romero's **DAWN OF THE DEAD**. Gratuitous gore has always turned my head—albeit there is surprisingly little in **DAWN OF THE DEAD**. This is my favorite type of horror film (one man against impossible odds) but buckets of blood run (for me) what could have been an exceptional film. Of course several graphic films manage to come across as shocking without relying on anything more than a few good old-fashioned chills. **RABID**, **THEY CAME FROM WITHIN**, **SUSPIRIA**, **THE EXORCIST**, **CARRIE** & **IT'S ALIVE**, to name a few. These are films that leave a favorable impression on the viewer (more or less).

WILLIAM COFFIN
Richmond, Va.

WANTED! More Readers Like



BRIAN HOUGHTON

DUTCH TREAT

My name is Johan Colle. I'm living in the Hague, Holland, and I'm 18 years old.

I'm for a long time fan of your issue "famous monsters", and I'm really happy about that, because that's the main reason for changing my life after my age of 12, before that time I had only one hobby, and that occupied my spare-time, the rest of the time I was doing homework or be at school. That hobby was diving. Until I went to a newsstand and saw #105, and at my first glance it looked like an ordinary paper to me, but I was wondering what sort of paper it was, so I bought me a copy which costed 5 guilders: \$2.50, so that was all my pocket money, but when I came home a whole new world of films opened for my eyes. I saw pictures of films which I even didn't know, they existed. From that day on, I bought every next copy and I began to collect them. I read them so many times that I knew from every picture which film it was. But that's not all, I began to grow more and more as horror and science fiction fan and at the age of fourteen I got my first film projector, and thanks to the "famous monsters" my first film clips from all the horror films but all silent. And I invited all my friends to see them. (When I saw a super 8 monster or science fiction-200 FT reel in the famous monsters) I delivered it at the film dealer, and I got one from my parents). And so I got a whole collection of film clips and famous monsters. At my age of fifteen I had my second projector also silent but better than the first one, and I got also more films, but when I have to tell you about the time between my fifteenth age and now, I can better write a book with 500 pages. So I tell the rest in short.

At first I have a whole book shelf full of famous monsters issues, beginning with yearbook 1958 (which I got for special prices) but I have no subscription famous monsters, because america is so far away and anything can happen with such a valuable issue! so I'll buy them regularly at the newsstand. (only one disappointment is that they do not always appear on the newsstand).

Second my filmcollection has grown to 125 films 200' reels, 400' reels 800' reels and up to 2400' reels, in all lengths color, sound, bl/w sound, silent all sorts of films

and that all thru famous monsters, I have my own home cinema complete with wall screen and 8 seats, 4 big speakers etc. etc. thanks to famous monsters I have many hobby kits from star wars, star trek, other monster scenes, monster masks etc. thanks to famous monsters. So these were the things I wanted to tell you about (it's worth it) because I wanted you to know that there are even fans of the other end of the world from famous monsters, I wish your issue "famous monsters" all the luck in the world.

greetings and success

bye

Johan Colle

p.s. at first I want to tell, that I'm no american (so there are maybe reading-faults in it).

Your English is better than the Editor's French or German.

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JEFF HAROS

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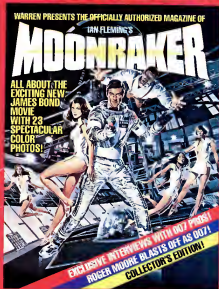
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